



CITY OF PITTSBURGH

"America's Most Livable City"

Office of Mayor William Peduto

April 11, 2014

Janette Sadik-Khan
National Association of City Transportation Officials
120 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. Sadik-Khan:

The National Association of City Transportation Officials' *Urban Street Design Guide* represents a vision for world-class city street design that meets the goals of my administration and the desires of the residents and visitors of the City of Pittsburgh. As urban leaders, we find ourselves today in the midst of unprecedented change, as the demands placed upon our streets and the desires of our citizens have set in motion a new paradigm for and perception of the street itself. Pressures from public health to climate change to mobile technology are together reshaping and redefining our urban fabric, while at the same time opening opportunities for innovation that were inconceivable only a decade ago.

At a time when we are striving to react to these trends and to put in place policies that will allow us to become more proactive, the *Urban Street Design Guide* offers a concrete vision for improving the safety and livability of our streets for pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers, and transit users. City streets demand a unique approach unmet by conventional design guidelines. The guidance, vision, and flexibility articulated in the *Urban Street Design Guide* instigate a new and important direction for cities. I see the Guide as an indispensable tool in planning modern city streets, especially as we work toward a common vision with our partners at all levels of government.

My goal of attracting 20,000 new residents to Pittsburgh in the coming years will not succeed unless we re-envision our streets as more than just commuter pipelines and put in place strong standards for safety, design, and livability that will promote healthier, more attractive neighborhoods. The *Urban Street Design Guide* provides us with a roadmap to develop Pittsburgh-specific policies that fit the unique character of our city.

The NACTO Urban Street Design Guide is an integral and effective tool for designing streets and public spaces.

Sincerely,

William Peduto
Mayor, City of Pittsburgh